

In the Claims

1           1.     [Original] An image forming device comprising:  
2           an image engine configured to use a consumable to form a hard image; and  
3           processing circuitry coupled with the image engine and configured to:  
4           perform prediction operations with respect to the consumable to  
5     predict a likelihood that an image job will be imaged;  
6           receive a change of use indication with respect to the consumable; and  
7           modify the prediction operations responsive to the change of use.

1           2.     [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising a memory  
2     configured to store predictive data regarding usage of the consumable responsive to  
3     the formation of hard images, and wherein the processing circuitry is configured to  
4     access the predictive data to perform the prediction operations.

1           3.     [Original] The device of claim 2 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2     configured to reset the predictive data to modify the prediction operations, and  
3     wherein the memory is configured to store subsequent predictive data after the  
4     resetting, and the processing circuitry is configured to use the subsequent predictive  
5     data after the resetting to perform subsequent prediction operations after the  
6     resetting.

1           4.     [Original] The device of claim 2 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2     configured to set a change of use warning associated with the predictive data to  
3     modify the prediction operations.

1           5.     [Original] The device of claim 2 wherein the memory is located upon  
2     the consumable.

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1           6.     [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising a memory  
2     configured to store historical data regarding usage of the consumable responsive to  
3     the formation of hard images, and wherein the processing circuitry is configured to  
4     use the historical data to perform the prediction operations and to maintain the  
5     historical data after the change of use.

1           7.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2     configured to suspend the prediction operations to modify the prediction operations.

1           8.     [Original] The device of claim 7 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2     configured to establish confidence in the prediction operations after the suspension  
3     and to reenale the prediction operations after the establishment of confidence.

1           9.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2     configured to verify the change of use indication responsive to receiving the change  
3     of use indication, and to modify the prediction operations responsive to the  
4     verification.

1           10.    [Original] A method of operating an image forming device configured  
2     to use a consumable to form a hard image, the method comprising:  
3             performing prediction operations with respect to a consumable to predict a  
4     likelihood that an image job will be imaged;  
5             indicating a change of use of the consumable; and  
6             modifying the prediction operations with respect to the consumable after the  
7     indicating the change of use.

1           11.    [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising storing predictive  
2     data regarding usage of the consumable, and wherein the performing comprises  
3     performing the prediction operations using the predictive data.

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1           12.   [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the modifying comprises  
2   resetting the predictive data, and further comprising acquiring subsequent predictive  
3   data after the resetting, and performing subsequent prediction operations using the  
4   predictive data acquired after the resetting.

1           13.   [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the modifying comprises  
2   setting a change of use warning indication associated with the predictive data.

1           14.   [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the storing comprises  
2   storing the predictive data upon a memory of the consumable.

1           15.   [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising storing historical  
2   data regarding usage of a consumable, and wherein the performing the prediction  
3   operations comprises performing using the historical data, and further comprising  
4   maintaining the historical data during the modifying.

1           16.   [Original] The method of claim 10 wherein the modifying the  
2   prediction operations comprises suspending the prediction operations.

1           17.   [Original] The method of claim 16 further comprising:  
2           establishing confidence in the prediction operations after the modifying; and  
3           reenabling the prediction operations with respect to the consumable after  
4   establishing confidence.

1           18.   [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising verifying the  
2   change of use of the consumable, and wherein the modifying is responsive to the  
3   verifying.

1           19.   [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising moving the  
2   consumable from a first image forming device to a second image forming device,  
3   and wherein the indicating is responsive to the moving.

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1        20. [Original] A method of providing consumable information comprising:  
2        providing a consumable usable to form hard images;  
3        storing predictive data concerning usage of the consumable upon the  
4 consumable to enable prediction operations to predict a likelihood that an image job  
5 will be imaged using the consumable; and  
6        setting a warning indication upon the consumable and associated with the  
7 predictive data to indicate a change of use of the consumable and to warn a user of  
8 a suspect nature of the predictive data.

1        21. [Original] A method of operating printer configured to use a  
2 consumable to form hard images, the method comprising:  
3        printing a plurality of hard images;  
4        storing predictive data regarding usage of a consumable responsive to the  
5 printing, wherein the storing predictive data comprises storing upon a memory of the  
6 consumable;  
7        storing historical data regarding usage of the consumable responsive to the  
8 printing, wherein the storing historical data comprises storing upon the memory;  
9        performing prediction operations with respect to the consumable using the  
10 predictive data and the historical data to predict a likelihood that an image job will  
11 be imaged using the consumable;  
12        indicating a change of use of the consumable after the performing;  
13        verifying the change of use of the consumable after the indicating;  
14        resetting the predictive data after the verifying;  
15        maintaining the historical data during the resetting;  
16        acquiring subsequent predictive data after the resetting;  
17        establishing confidence in the prediction operations after the resetting;  
18 and  
19        performing subsequent prediction operations after the establishing confidence  
20 using the historical data and the subsequent predictive data.

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1           22.   [Currently Amended] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing  
2   circuitry is configured to perform the prediction operations comprising comparing a  
3   number of pages of the image job to be imaged with ~~respect to~~ the predictive data  
4   indicative of a remaining supply of the consumable.

1           23.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the change of  
2   use indication is responsive to a change in environment from a first type of printing  
3   environment to a second type of printing environment different than the first type of  
4   printing environment.

1           24.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing  
2   circuitry is configured to access data indicative of an amount of the consumable  
3   used to print a single sheet of paper to perform the prediction operations.

1           25.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing  
2   circuitry is configured to utilize a number of pages of the image job to be imaged to  
3   perform the prediction operations to predict the likelihood that the image job will be  
4   imaged.

1           26.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing  
2   circuitry is configured to perform the prediction operations responsive to the  
3   provision of the image job for imaging using the image engine.  
4

1           27.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 7 wherein the processing  
2   circuitry is configured to control the image engine to form hard images of image jobs  
3   during suspension of the prediction operations.

1           28.   [Previously Presented] The method of claim 10 further comprising  
2   accessing information regarding a number of pages of the image job to be imaged,  
3   and wherein the performing comprises performing the prediction operations using  
4   the number of pages.

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1           29.   [Previously Presented] The method of claim 28 further comprising  
2   accessing data indicative of a remaining supply of the consumable, and wherein the  
3   performing comprises comparing the number of pages of the image job to be imaged  
4   with the data.

1           30.   [Previously Presented] The method of claim 10 further comprising  
2   providing a request to image the image job and wherein the performing is responsive  
3   to the request.

1           31.   [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2   configured to perform the prediction operations to predict a likelihood that the image  
3   job will be imaged by the image forming device responsive to reception of the image  
4   job by the image forming device and prior to beginning of the imaging of the image  
5   job upon media by the image forming device.

1           32.   [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the change of use indication  
2   indicates a change as to how the consumable will be used.

1           33.   [New] The device of claim 32 wherein the change of use indication is  
2   with respect to the same consumable item before and after a change of use of the  
3   consumable item.

1           34.   [New] The device of claim 23 wherein the image forming device is  
2   changed from the first type of printing environment to the second type of printing  
3   environment.

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